

VZCZCXYZ0003  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAM #1428 1790338  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 280338Z JUN 09  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5369  
INFO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 1324  
RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 6265  
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 3066  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 4054  
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 2175  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1775  
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 5562

UNCLAS AMMAN 001428

SIPDIS

FOR NEA/ELA (GREGONIS) AND EEB/ESC (MONOSSON), OES/EGC (THOMPSON)  
AND IO/EDA (WEBBER)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [SENG](#) [KGHG](#) [AORC](#) [PREL](#) [JO](#)

SUBJECT: JORDAN WELCOMES U.S. MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE  
ENERGY AGENCY

REFS: A) STATE 59969  
B) AMMAN 362

¶1. (U) EconCouns delivered ref A demarche on possible U.S. membership in the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Director for Renewable Energy Engineer Eng. Ziad Jibril on June 24 and to Minister of Environment Khaled Irani on June 25. ESTHOff also demarched Walid Shahin, the new President of the National Energy Research Center, on June 25. All welcomed U.S. membership with Jibril, who will attend the June 28-30 meetings in Cairo, commenting the U.S. "had nothing to lose" by joining and that U.S. membership and active "participation would be a good success for the agency." He added that Jordan paid close attention to President Obama's statements on renewables and would therefore "expect a lot." Irani likewise praised the Administration's stance and said IRENA member states would look to the U.S. for leadership.

¶2. (SBU) On the subject of the proposed location for IRENA headquarters, Jibril said Jordan would join Arab consensus and support the UAE's bid. Jordan also shares the U.S. views on why the UAE is the best choice. Irani applauded the UAE's "bold" choice and the global message an oil-producing country was sending by embracing alternative energy forms.

¶3. (SBU) Jordan does not have an independent position on the candidates for Director-General and Jibril opined it would join consensus with other Arab states. Irani, however, said if the U.S. had a preferred candidate, he would encourage similar support from Jordan and the other Arab states.

¶4. (U) Jibril further added that subsequent to Jordan's January signature of the IRENA statute, the document had been forwarded to the cabinet for review and ultimate approval by the King and issuance of a royal decree (ref B).

Visit Amman's Classified Web Site at  
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/nea/amman>